

Chapmanslade School

Newsletter

12th March 2021



Message from the Head Teacher

Dear Parents,

I know that I speak for all the staff here when I say how wonderful it has been to welcome all children back to school this week. Attendance has been a remarkable 99.7% with no illness reported. There is no doubt that improved hand and respiratory hygiene, along with good ventilation, has helped to keep our pupils and staff well. These are measures that we shall continue to promote, alongside clearly defined bubbles of pupils and staff, and social distancing on the driveway.

As we look forward to Mothering Sunday this weekend, my team and I want to say a very sincere thank you to all parents for the fantastic job you have done in supporting your children during the recent long, dull and emotionally draining lockdown. We can honestly say that our pupils have returned to school happy and enthusiastic, ready to continue with their learning, and full of lovely anecdotes about the time spent at home. The amount of support that has been given at home will underpin the work we intend to do for the remainder of this academic year to ensure that the children have as few gaps as possible in key knowledge and skills. Thank you for working in partnership with us.

As part of their monitoring duty, our governors contact parents from time to time. Please be assured that individual responses are confidential; however, once anonymised and collated, your feedback gives my team and me a helpful indication of what we do well, and ways in which we can improve further. Mrs Maggie Thackway (foundation governor) and Mr Tom Dore (parent governor) will be telephoning parents of children in year 5 next week to ask how effective you felt the remote learning arrangements during the recent lockdown were. Please do not hesitate to raise any issues with our governors during these confidential telephone calls.

Children's passwords to Teams have been changed to prevent Teams being used as a form of social media between pupils now that teachers no longer monitor it. If an individual child or family, or a bubble, have to self-isolate, we shall send out new passwords to enable those at home to keep up with the work that is going on in class.

If you are having any difficulty sourcing school uniform for your child, we do maintain a small stock of good quality second hand items. Please contact the school office if you require anything, or would like to donate uniform that you no longer need. Summer uniform (when the weather improves) is grey shorts or purple gingham dresses with plain grey or white socks and well-fitting enclosed sandals or shoes. Please do not send children to school in slip-on shoes. They are not safe for running around at break time. Please also ensure that items of school uniform, particularly sweatshirts and cardigans, are clearly named.

Looking further ahead, the government is still advising against trips so we have no plans in place to take children off site. However, we hope to hold parents' evenings and a sports day if national rules permit, and I will keep you updated on any progress towards those aims. Football and Bath Rugby after-school clubs will commence after Easter for KS2 pupils.

Yours sincerely,
Mrs Chapman